1971. In the National Capital Territory of Delhi, railways have agreed to bear part cost of relocation of Pre-1998 encroachers located on Railway land in 'Safety Zone' and on land required for execution of sanctioned projects, as per the Resettlement and Rehabilitation policy of Delhi Government, which has the approval of the Ministry of Urban Development. Northern Railway have deposited over Rs.11 crores with the Government of Delhi on this account, for relocating 'Jhuggies Jhopries', to get encroachments removed from railway land. Regular chasing and meetings are done by railway officials with Delhi Government officials. All efforts are made by railway towards proper co-ordination with the Government of Delhi including seeking assistance of local police and Magistrate as eviction of encroachers often lead to law and order problems. The co-operation of the Government of Delhi in removal of encroachers has not been adequate.

Connecting Kashmir valley to rest of India

2102. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railway's ambitious project to connect Kashmir valley to rest of India through Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla railway track is going to cost almost two and half times more than what was estimated earlier;

(b) if so, the reason therefor; and

(c) what is the budget and time frame for this project alongwith the details. thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R.VELU): (a) and (b) The rough estimated cost at the time of preparation of project report was assessed as Rs. 3077 crore. Now, the cost has been estimated as Rs. 11,270 crore after completion of detailed engineering survey. Earlier estimate was prepared on the basis of topo sheets and aerial photographs as detailed survey could not be completed due to highly difficult inaccessible terrain and adverse condition/ situation of the area.

(c) An outlay of Rs. 1700 crore has been proposed as an additionality during 2007-08. An expenditure of Rs. 3836 crore has been incurred upto March, 2007. The project is proposed for completion as per following schedule:–

Udhampur–Katra – December, 2008.

Katra–Qazigund – 2011-12.

Qazigund-Baramulla – May, 2008.

Dependence on BSNL regarding PRS services

2103. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:
SHRI VINAY KATIYAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways is facing difficulties on links to BSNL in regard to their PRS services; and